

Claims 1-19 have been amended. Claims 20-22 are newly-presented. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 11, 16, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,329,289 (Sakamoto, et al.). Claims 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Sakamoto, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,978 (Robbins). Claims 5, 9, 14, and 18 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Sakamoto, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,287 (Rubber, et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1 and 20 recite, inter alia, that a control means controls the operation of an information processing apparatus so that a relation between a display direction of a display and an indication direction of an indicator is constant. Independent Claims 10, 19, 21, and 22 recite, inter alia, that in a control step the operation of an information processing apparatus is controlled so that a relation between a display direction of a display and an indication direction of an indicator is constant.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Sakamoto, et al., Robbins, and Rubber, et al. teach or suggest at least the aforementioned features of independent Claims 1, 10, and 19-22.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as the base claims from which they depend and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action and submits that the present application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Kondoudis

Attorney for Applicant
Michael E. Kondoudis
Registration No. 42,758

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
MEK\cmv:ksp
DC_MAIN 125084 v 1

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An information processing apparatus having an indicator, [characterized by] said apparatus comprising:

designation means for designating a display direction of a display;

storage means for storing a management table for making an indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling an operation of the information processing apparatus for the indication state;

detection means for detecting the indication state of the indicator; and

control means for controlling the operation of the information processing apparatus on the basis of control information of the management table corresponding to a detection result of said detection means,

wherein said control means controls the operation of said information processing apparatus so that a relation between the display direction and an indication direction of the indicator is constant.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] the management table makes the indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling scroll operation of a display window of the display.

3. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

[characterized in that] the display has a rectangular shape, and can serve as a vertically elongated screen for displaying a display window with a long side of the rectangle directed vertically, or a horizontally elongated screen for displaying the display window with the long side directed horizontally, and

the management table makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction is a vertical direction corresponding to the vertically elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling vertical scroll operation of the vertically elongated screen, and makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction is a horizontal direction corresponding to the horizontally elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling horizontal scroll operation of the horizontally elongated screen.

4. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

[characterized in that] the display has a rectangular shape, and can serve as a vertically elongated screen for displaying a display window with a long side of the rectangle directed vertically, or a horizontally elongated screen for displaying the display window with the long side directed horizontally, and

the management table makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction is a vertical direction corresponding to the vertically elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling vertical scroll operation of the vertically elongated screen, and makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction

is a horizontal direction corresponding to the horizontally elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling vertical scroll operation of the horizontally elongated screen.

5. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] the management table makes the indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling a focusing operation to a plurality of focusing targets in a display window of the display.

6. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] said designation means includes a predetermined icon in the display.

7. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] said control means comprises change means for changing contents of the management table on the basis of the indication state of the indicator.

8. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] the indicator includes at least [either] one of a jog dial switch and a shuttle switch.

9. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] said detection means detects an indication direction and an indication amount of the indicator.

10. (Amended) A control method for an information processing apparatus having an indicator, said method [characterized by] comprising:

- a designation step of designating a display direction of a display;
- a storage step of storing a management table for making an indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling an operation of the information processing apparatus for the indication state;
- a detection step of detecting the indication state of the indicator; and
- a control step of controlling the operation of the information processing apparatus on the basis of control information of the management table corresponding to a detection result in said [the] detection step,

wherein, in said control step, the operation of the information processing apparatus is controlled so that a relation between the display direction and an indication direction of the indicator is constant.

11. (Amended) The method [step] according to claim 10, wherein [characterized in that] the management table makes the indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling scroll operation of a display window of the display.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein
[characterized in that] the display has a rectangular shape, and can serve as a vertically elongated screen for displaying a display window with a long side of the rectangle directed vertically, or a horizontally elongated screen for displaying the display window with the long side directed horizontally, and

the management table makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction is a vertical direction corresponding to the vertically elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling vertical scroll operation of the vertically elongated screen, and makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction is a horizontal direction corresponding to the horizontally elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling horizontal scroll operation of the horizontally elongated screen.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein
[characterized in that] the display has a rectangular shape, and can serve as a vertically elongated screen for displaying a display window with a long side of the rectangle directed vertically, or a horizontally elongated screen for displaying the display window with the long side directed horizontally, and

the management table makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction is a vertical direction corresponding to the vertically elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling vertical scroll operation of the vertically elongated screen, and makes an indication state of the indicator, when the display direction

is a horizontal direction corresponding to the horizontally elongated screen, correspond to control information for controlling vertical scroll operation of the horizontally elongated screen.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein [characterized in that] the management table makes the indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling a focusing operation to a plurality of focusing targets in a display window of the display.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said [characterized in that the] designation step includes displaying a predetermined icon in the display.

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said [characterized in that the] control step comprises the change step of changing contents of the management table on the basis of the indication state of the indicator.

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein [characterized in that] the indicator includes at least [either] one of a jog dial switch and a shuttle switch.

18. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said [characterized in that the] detection step comprises detecting an indication direction and an indication amount of the indicator.

19. (Amended) A computer-readable memory which stores program codes for controlling an information processing apparatus having an indicator, said computer-readable memory [characterized by] comprising program codes of:

- a designation step of designating a display direction of a display;
- a storage step of storing a management table for making an indication state of the indicator in the display direction correspond to control information for controlling an operation of the information processing apparatus for the indication state;
- a detection step of detecting the indication state of the indicator; and
- a control step of controlling the operation of the information processing apparatus on the basis of control information of the management table corresponding to a detection result in said [the] detection step,

wherein, in said control step, the operation of the information processing apparatus is controlled so that a relation between the display direction and an indication direction of the indicator is constant.